

To: Ham, Greg[Ham.Greg@epa.gov]; Kunkel, Summer[sukunkel@pa.gov]; Repetz, John[JREPETZ@pa.gov]; Langer, Lynn[l langer@pa.gov]; Bardell, Kristen[kbardell@pa.gov]; Landis, Victor[vlandis@pa.gov]; Sigouin, Mark[msigouin@pa.gov]
Cc: Ex. 4 - CBI westonsolutions.com]
From: Moore, Brian
Sent: Tue 6/16/2015 12:54:47 PM
Subject: RE: Viewer email about high Nitrate levels near Conewago Creek
[image001.png](#)

I'm not sure that 1) the plume would have reached that location when they tested the sample on Wednesday. 2) if the home test kit is reporting the results as Nitrate and not Nitrate/Nitrogen then the results would be much higher than what is normally looked at for drinking water and would not necessarily be comparable. If it's just as 'Nitrate' then the drinking water number would be around 45. Coupled with the fact that all of the recent tests were at 80 with no variation I'm not sure there is enough to go on to warrant the EPA sampling it.

Greg, if Weston staff feel that the formation the well is in could be impacted by the surface water and we want to be extra cautious we could look at it, but my initial feeling is that it's not related but that this has thrown focus on an existing Nitrate issue.

If anyone has a differing opinion please feel free to offer it up.

Brian

From: Ham, Greg <Ham.Greg@epa.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, June 16, 2015 7:57:24 AM
To: Kunkel, Summer; Repetz, John; Moore, Brian; Langer, Lynn; Bardell, Kristen; Landis, Victor
Cc: Ex. 4 - CBI
Subject: RE: Viewer email about high Nitrate levels near Conewago Creek

Thanks, Summer. The question now is do we want to sample their well. They are the farthest downstream of the wells on the list, and as Brian and John discussed if they are getting nitrates in their well from the creek, they have a problem with their well, not necessarily related to the Miller fire.

I have no problem sampling their well, but the question is what do we do if we find a problem?

From: Kunkel, Summer [mailto:sukunkel@pa.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, June 16, 2015 7:50 AM
To: Ham, Greg; Repetz, John; Moore, Brian; Langer, Lynn; Bardell, Kristen; Landis, Victor
Subject: RE: Viewer email about high Nitrate levels near Conewago Creek

This sounds like the Soltis family – I spoke to the wife last week. They are on your list, Greg.

From: Ham, Greg [mailto:Ham.Greg@epa.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, June 16, 2015 6:30 AM
To: Repetz, John; Moore, Brian; Langer, Lynn; Kunkel, Summer; Bardell, Kristen; Landis, Victor
Subject: RE: Viewer email about high Nitrate levels near Conewago Creek

We are planning to sample four wells today. If you want us to sample this well, I would need the address/contact info before noon today.

From: Repetz, John [mailto:JREPETZ@pa.gov]
Sent: Monday, June 15, 2015 5:07 PM
To: Moore, Brian; Langer, Lynn; Kunkel, Summer; Ham, Greg; Bardell, Kristen; Landis, Victor
Subject: RE: Viewer email about high Nitrate levels near Conewago Creek

Good point about the integrity of the well.

With a supposed reading of 40 last Wednesday would it be physically possible for the plume to get all the way to near Pinchot Park and into the well in that amount of time?

From: Moore, Brian
Sent: Monday, June 15, 2015 4:46 PM
To: Repetz, John; Langer, Lynn; Kunkel, Summer; Greg Ham; Bardell, Kristen; Landis, Victor
Cc: Moore, Brian
Subject: RE: Viewer email about high Nitrate levels near Conewago Creek

Of greater concern to this resident is that, if substantiated, her well is under the influence of the Conewago and that whatever is running off into it would be in their well....

From: Moore, Brian
Sent: Monday, June 15, 2015 4:29:22 PM
To: Repetz, John; Langer, Lynn; Kunkel, Summer; Greg Ham; Bardell, Kristen; Landis, Victor
Subject: RE: Viewer email about high Nitrate levels near Conewago Creek

Without knowing the address or person it's hard to know how to proceed. I know that the EPA is starting to sample tomorrow. It's also hard to know what the 'normal' nitrate levels are in the Conewago. With the agricultural runoff from the area 80ppm may be what is typically there, I really have no idea what a normal level is. If we get the homeowners information I will give it to Greg Ham who I have copied on this e-mail. I also copied Victor Landis and Kristen Bardell to see if they have an idea about what levels of Nitrate we would expect to see in the Conewago or a similar creek.

Brian

From: Repetz, John
Sent: Monday, June 15, 2015 4:10:24 PM
To: Moore, Brian; Langer, Lynn; Kunkel, Summer
Subject: FW: Viewer email about high Nitrate levels near Conewago Creek

From: James W Tully [mailto:JWTTully@sbgvtv.com]
Sent: Monday, June 15, 2015 3:55 PM
To: Repetz, John
Subject: Viewer email about high Nitrate levels near Conewago Creek

Sorry I'm on the other line, here's the email from our viewer.

From our viewer -

Hi - I am trying to share with the public what I am experiencing since the media is not telling us much. I live near lake Pinchot in Lewisberry, PA. The Conewago Creek runs on both sides of our house. I started testing my well water for NITRATE on Wednesday this week with a home test kit. My well water was testing approximately 40ppm. 10ppm is the Federal safe limit. I had my well water tested by a lab in August 2010 and the Nitrate was 7ppm. I tested our water again last night and the result was 80ppm with my home test kit. I tested the Conewago Creek water near our house and it also tested 80ppm. I tested the well water at two other houses on our street (Kunkles Mill Rd in Lewisberry, PA) and their water tested 80ppm. I tested bottled water from Giant and it tested 0ppm with my home test kit. I took a sample of the creek water and my well water to Microbac laboratory for certified testing this morning. The results are expected in 7 days. My wife and I have a 6month old baby and our neighbors that I tested have a 5 month old baby. High nitrate is most harmful to babies. We were using boiled tap water for mixing her formula through Wednesday, June 10! We learned that boiling does not remove Nitrate, it actually concentrates it! Now we are only drinking bottled water. Nobody seems to be talking about how serious

this is for well owners. Please help me spread the word! I have a log book of tests and photos I took of the test results

James Tully
Anchor & Reporter
WHP CBS 21

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